



Exploring Different Program and Career Options

Grades: 9-10
Time: 1-2 class periods
Subjects: All subjects and classes

Description:

This game resembles a team approach to Jeopardy. This game is an easy activity for any group of students to play together in teams. The object of the game is to guess the correct title of the career or program in order to get the most points in the time provided by the instructor.

Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Work effectively and fairly as a member of a team.
- Learn more about other programs and careers available.
- Explore a variety of options for careers in the real world.

Materials:

1. Note cards with descriptions of programs and careers made from attached lists.
2. (Optional) Overhead transparencies with descriptions of careers and programs to project on screen during the game.
3. Answer sheet from instructor.
4. Note cards, dice, paper and pencil.

Procedure:

1. Set up the game. This game requires the game host to read from several different note cards with explanations about specific programs and careers without revealing what the program or career is named. Students give the correct program or career.
2. Next, divide the class into teams of 3-4. Students roll dice to see which team starts the game. The highest roll goes first.
3. The instructor selects a card and reads it aloud. If using an overhead projector, project the answer (transparency) on the screen. Teams are allowed one minute to answer. If the answer is correct, the team then rolls the dice to see how many points they win. A 1=100 pts, a 2=200 pts, etc. If the answer is incorrect, then the team wins nothing. The instructor keeps score on the board.
4. When each team has had a turn, a new round begins. The instructor can determine how long the game runs. When time is over, the team with the most points wins.
5. Summarize activity by asking students to state something they learned that surprised them.

Evaluation:

Assess willingness to participate in group activity and effort exerted in game and subsequent discussions.

Name That Program

A Closer Look At Programs And The Cool Careers They Can Lead To

1. I use a lot of different tools and machines in my job. When I first started off, I did a lot of sanding and surface preparation. Now I work on the vehicles that need to be air brushed. I specialize in customizing vehicles. Some require a lot of artistic ability. I went to work right after I graduated from high school. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$29,099.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

2. I work in a small shop with three other people. We share tools and machines. One of my colleagues makes guitars, another repairs furniture, and I assist my boss in making cabinets and shelves. Contractors hire us when they are remodeling kitchens. We make customized cabinets and shelves based on the specifications the contractors give us. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$35,775.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

3. I install and repair security systems. (Believe it or not, I became interested in them after my family's house was robbed.) I test and modify the main circuits and the power panels in the buildings where I am working. I am expected to know all of the safety codes and regulations. I studied the basics of my trade in high school and am finishing up my apprenticeship. I will get my license when I am done. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$39,260.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

4. I work for a company which makes jewelry. I build the patterns to make the molds that liquid metal is poured into. When the liquid metal hardens, and with some finishing touches, it becomes the jewelry we sell. In my department, we work from the blueprints we are given from the design and engineering department. I got this job right after I graduated from high school. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$38,480.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

5. I work on a crew of six people. Most of our work is outdoors. We take care of lawns, trim shrubs, and plant foliage on commercial and residential properties. We also build retaining walls, install pathways, and apply fertilizers and other chemicals to plants to encourage growth and to prevent disease. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$16,806.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

6. My work allows me to be creative. I work for the movie industry in animated cartoon production. Although I attended a two-year program in fine arts, I gained a lot of the practical background knowledge in my vocational technical high school. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$33,900.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

Name That Program (continued)

7. I work as a Splice Service Technician for the telephone company. Sometimes I work outside climbing telephone poles and installing, adjusting, or repairing cables. Other times I work inside installing phone systems. I had to pass a strict security check, pole climbing school, and a week of intense physical and technical training. I went to work right out of high school and am working my way up. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$31,720.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

8. I became a certified scuba diver in high school. And, I got this job because of my certification. I work under water on construction projects. Sometimes these projects involve laying under water pipelines, other times repairing underwater steel reinforcements on bridges and in tunnels. I learned my trade at a vocational technical school and continued my training in the armed services. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$29,536.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

9. I work with people — most of whom are dead — in a funeral home with a mortician. I assist in the embalming of the body. However, my work focuses on preparing the deceased for public viewing. I use photographs the family has given me in order to match the skin tones, hair color, and overall appearance of the deceased with their “normal” appearance. I completed vocational technical high school, a one year specialized program, and a two-year apprenticeship. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$16,225.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

10. I work as an Emergency Medical Technician for a city fire department. I treat people injured in fires. My work involves life-or-death situations. It is also physically demanding. I often put in over 50 hours a week. Besides being a qualified fire fighter, I completed 120 hours of classroom training in addition to a 10-hour internship in a hospital. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$19,490.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

Name That Program—Answer Sheet

1. I use a lot of different tools and machines in my job. When I first started off, I did a lot of sanding and surface preparation. Now I work on the vehicles that need to be air brushed. I specialize in customizing vehicles. Some require a lot of artistic ability. I went to work right after I graduated from high school. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$29,099.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

Auto Body

2. I work in a small shop with three other people. We share tools and machines. One of my colleagues makes guitars, another repairs furniture, and I assist my boss in making cabinets and shelves. Contractors hire us when they are remodeling kitchens. We make customized cabinets and shelves based on the specifications the contractors give us. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$35,775.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

Carpentry/Woodworking

3. I install and repair security systems. (Believe it or not, I became interested in them after my family's house was robbed.) I test and modify the main circuits and the power panels in the buildings where I am working. I am expected to know all of the safety codes and regulations. I studied the basic of my trade in high school and am finishing up my apprenticeship. I will get my license when I am done. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$39,260.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

Electrical/Electronics

4. I work for a company which makes jewelry. I build the patterns to make the molds that liquid metal is poured into. When the liquid metal hardens, and with some finishing touches, it becomes the jewelry we sell. In my department, we work from the blueprints we are given from the design and engineering department. I got this job right after I graduated from high school. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$38,480.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

**Metal Fabrication/
Manufacturing Technology**

5. I work on a crew of six people. Most of our work is outdoors. We take care of lawns, trim shrubs, and plant foliage on commercial and residential properties. We also build retaining walls, install pathways, and apply fertilizers and other chemicals to plants to encourage growth and to prevent disease. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$16,806.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

**Landscaping/Horticultural/
Building Maintenance**

6. My work allows me to be creative. I work for the movie industry in animated cartoon production. Although I attended a two-year program in fine arts, I gained a lot of the practical background knowledge in my vocational technical high school. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$33,900.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

Computer Technology/ Drafting

Name That Program—Answer Sheet (continued)

7. I work as a Splice Service Technician for the telephone company. Sometimes I work outside climbing telephone poles and installing, adjusting, or repairing cables. Other times I work inside installing phone systems. I had to pass a strict security check, pole climbing school, and a week of intense physical and technical training. I went to work right out of high school and am working my way up. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$31,720.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

Electrical

8. I became a certified scuba diver in high school. And, I got this job because of my certification. I work under water on construction projects. Sometimes these projects involve laying under water pipelines, other times repairing underwater steel reinforcements on bridges and in tunnels. I learned my trade at a vocational technical school and continued my training in the armed services. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$29,536.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

Welding/Metal Fabrication

9. I work with people — most of whom are dead — in a funeral home with a mortician. I assist in the embalming of the body. However, my work focuses on preparing the deceased for public viewing. I use photographs the family has given me in order to match the skin tones, hair color, and overall appearance of the deceased with their “normal” appearance. I completed vocational technical high school, a one year specialized program, and a two-year apprenticeship. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$16,225.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

Cosmetology

10. I work as an Emergency Medical Technician for a city fire department. I treat people injured in fires. My work involves life-or-death situations. It is also physically demanding. I often put in over 50 hours a week. Besides being a qualified fire fighter, I completed 120 hours of classroom training in addition to a 10-hour internship in a hospital. The median yearly salary for this type of job is \$19,490.

What program was I in when I was in high school?

Health Services and Technology

Sources: Colleges Majors and Careers by Paul Phifer, Garrett Park Press, 1993

Career Moves, Massachusetts Dept. of Employment and Training, 1996

National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, http://stats.bls.gov/oes/national/oes_nat.htm

State Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, http://stats.bls.gov/oes/state/oes_ma.htm

Source: Gender Equity Lesson Plans and Teacher Guide for High Schools, ©1999. "Springfield Technical Community College reserves all rights to materials."

Name That Career

1. The machines I work with are probably the most used and needed pieces of equipment in offices, schools, and homes today — not to mention banks, stores, and libraries. My job is to write a series of instructions, called programs, that help the machine to store and organize this information and to use this information to solve problems — such as designing a program to help blind people read print or to help you find out the balance of your checking account. Using electronic mail and the Internet would be impossible without me. In my field there are more jobs than qualified people to fill them. I have a Bachelor's degree and make \$775 per week or about \$40,000 per year, and I just started in the field.

Name that Career!

2. My area of science is used in producing food, clothing, furniture, drugs, plastics, glass, paper — just about everything we use in the world today. I spend some of my time in the lab — analyzing and testing substances. Growing concerns about the environment have led me to help develop chemicals and processes that save energy, reduce pollution, and get rid of hazardous waste. My work is exciting and always changing. You need a Bachelor's degree to enter this field and most of us go on to get our Ph.D. At the moment there are jobs available for new graduates and the need for my job is expected to grow. I make about \$950 per week or \$50,000 per year.

Name that Career!

3. I am a special kind of scientist who at the moment works for a television station during the news section. I give the viewers an important piece of information they ask for daily — the weather forecast. My job is exciting and challenging as it involves studying many of the sciences such as geography, climatology, physics, chemistry, geology, and astronomy. Most jobs in this field are in the cities and to find a job you might have to relocate. A Bachelor's or Master's degree is necessary. An average salary for people in my field is \$770 per week or about \$40,000 per year.

Name that Career!

4. I am a special kind of doctor who treats and adjusts patients' spinal columns and other body parts to correct and prevent diseases, especially those related to the nervous system. People come to me for help with headaches, allergies, after car accidents, and asthma. I may spend my time doing adjustments with my hands or special equipment. My schooling is similar to that of a medical doctor, with 4 years of undergraduate work in biology or pre-med, then 5 years of specialized training and passing a licensing examination. As more and more people seek out alternative health providers, the need for those in my field is expected to grow. My salary can range from \$1,000-\$1,500 per week or \$60,000-\$80,000 per year.

Name that Career!

Name That Career (continued)

5. You may find me working in your local drug store, hospital or clinic. I am a health care professional who mixes compounds and dispenses medications and advises patients about prescription and over the counter drugs. I entered this field because I wanted to help people to recover from illness. I enjoy doing patient education — so people can help prevent certain diseases from starting. I went to a special college — 4-year program and had to pass a licensing exam as well as complete an internship. Jobs in my field are growing due to the increasing elderly population. My weekly salary is \$1,000, which is \$52,000 per year.

Name that Career!

6. I am in the health field providing direct patient care within a dentist's office. I examine, clean and polish teeth, give fluoride treatments, take X-rays and advise and teach patients about good dental habits. I went to a two-year program at a community college and obtained an Associate's degree, as well as a license. While in school I studied biology, health, chemistry, psychology and math. My field has a high job growth rate — which means there are many jobs in this field for the future. I make \$720 per week or \$37,000 per year.

Name that Career!

7. You can find me working in hospitals, medical labs and doctors' offices. I have an Associate's degree from a community college. At my job, I perform tests to diagnose and treat medical diseases. Much of my time is spent analyzing blood and tissue samples. Patients and doctors rely on me to get test results and reports back to them in a timely manner. Jobs in my field are increasing — the majority of the jobs being in hospitals. I make \$500 per week or about \$26,000 per year.

Name that Career!

8. You may find me working in a variety of buildings such as homes, offices, medical complexes, and department stores, helping to create a comfortable and attractive environment for customers or family members. Aside from using my background in art, I use math a lot in my job — fractions, decimals, geometry... for measuring dimensions, ordering fabric, estimating costs and much more. I have a Bachelor's degree in fine arts and after many years of working for a large company, I finally have my own business. I make anywhere from \$30,000-\$60,000 per year, depending on how much I work.

Name that Career!

9. One of the best parts of my job is working outside. I grow and harvest trees, flowers, vegetables, and other plants. Waiting on customers, making deliveries and letting people know how to care for plants are other enjoyable parts of my job. I have an Associate's degree from a community college, where I studied botany, horticulture and agriculture. Many jobs are available, however you might have to relocate for work, and it may be seasonal. I make \$440 per week or \$23,000 per year. Supervisors in this field can make up to \$45,000 per year.

Name that Career!

Name That Career (continued)

10. "Busy" is the best word to describe my job. I provide all levels of care for animals as well as assist the doctors with surgery and animal examinations. I do blood work, give medications, change bandages, and talk with pet owners about proper care for animals. I also order supplies, take inventory, and answer the phone on occasion. Some people employed in my field go to school and become licensed, others learn on the job. Some states do require a license to be employed in this profession. At present there is a nationwide shortage of people in this profession. I make \$400 per week or about \$21,000 per year.

Name that Career!

Name That Career—Answer Sheet

1. The machines I work with are probably the most used and needed pieces of equipment in offices, schools, and homes today — not to mention banks, stores, and libraries. My job is to write a series of instructions, called programs, that help the machine to store and organize this information and to use this information to solve problems — such as designing a program to help blind people read print or to help you find out the balance of your checking account. Using electronic mail and the Internet would be impossible without me. In my field there are more jobs than qualified people to fill them. I have a Bachelor's degree and make \$775 per week or about \$40,000 per year, and I just started in the field.

Name that Career!

Computer Programmer

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Name that Career!

Chemist

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Name that Career!

Meteorologist

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Name that Career!

Chiropractor

Name That Career–Answer Sheet (continued)

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Name that Career!

Pharmacist

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Name that Career!

Dental Hygienist

7. You can find me working in hospitals, medical labs and doctors' offices. I have an Associate's degree from a community college. At my job, I perform tests to diagnose and treat medical diseases. Much of my time is spent analyzing blood and tissue samples. Patients and doctors rely on me to get test results and reports back to them in a timely manner. Jobs in my field are increasing — the majority of the jobs being in hospitals. I make \$500 per week or about \$26,000 per year.

Name that Career!

Medical Laboratory Technician

8. You may find me working in a variety of buildings such as homes, offices, medical complexes, and department stores, helping to create a comfortable and attractive environment for customers or family members. Aside from using my background in art, I use math a lot in my job — fractions, decimals, geometry... for measuring dimensions, ordering fabric, estimating costs and much more. I have a Bachelor's degree in fine arts and after many years of working for a large company, I finally have my own business. I make anywhere from \$30,000-\$60,000 per year, depending on how much I work.

Name that Career!

Interior Designer/Decorator

9. One of the best parts of my job is working outside. I grow and harvest trees, flowers, vegetables, and other plants. Waiting on customers, making deliveries and letting people know how to care for plants are other enjoyable parts of my job. I have an Associate's degree from a community college, where I studied botany, horticulture and agriculture. Many jobs are available, however you might have to relocate for work, and it may be seasonal. I make \$440 per week or \$23,000 per year. Supervisors in this field can make up to \$45,000 per year.

Name that Career!

Nursery or Greenhouse Worker

Name That Career–Answer Sheet (continued)

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Name that Career!

Veterinary Technician

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Career Moves, Massachusetts Dept. of Employment and Training, 1996*

Source: Gender Equity Lesson Plans and Teacher Guide for High Schools, ©1999. "Springfield Technical Community College reserves all rights to materials."